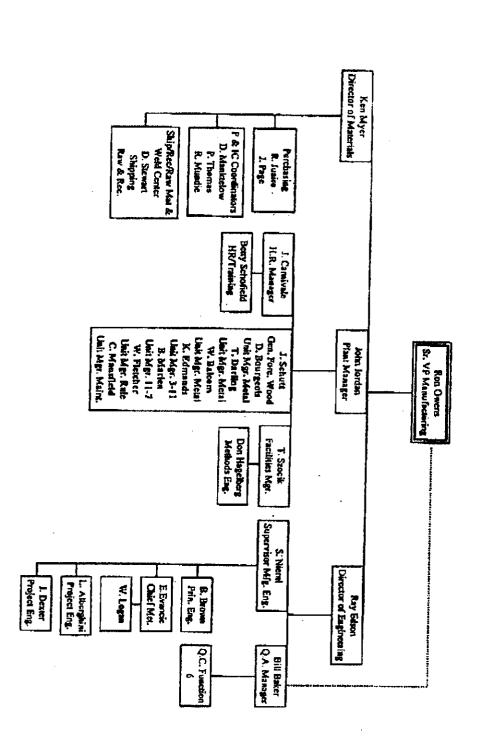
APPENDIX 1

Simonds Industries Inc.



Current	Supersedes	
14.4.1	1996-2001	Section (SUB)
1 of 1	Bus. Plan	Page (s)
2/1/00		Dated

APPENDIX 2

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1
                 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                  DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
  2
                      CENTRAL DIVISION
                           Civil Action No. 01-40059-NMG
  3
  4
        RONALD LARSEN,
                    Plaintiff,
  5
         VS.
  б
       SIMONDS INDUSTRIES, INC.,
  7
                   Defendant.
  8
  9
              DEPOSITION OF RONALD W. OWENS, taken at
       the request of the Defendant pursuant to the
       applicable provisions of the Federal Rules of
 10
       Civil Procedure before Julie A. Bates, a
       Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of
 11
       Massachusetts, on Tuesday, April 5, 2005, at
       the offices of Bowditch & Dewey, 311 Main
 12
       Street, Wordester, Massachusetts. Also
 13
       present: Attorney David Witman.
14
       APPEARANCES:
15
       FOR THE PLAINTIFF:
       ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE P.C.
16
       307 Central Street
17
       Gardner, MA
                   01440
       (978) 632-7948
        BY: MARCIA L. ELLIOTT, ESQ.
18
             JILL A. ROMER, ESQ.
19
            JOHN M. FLICK, ESO.
20
      FOR THE DEFENDANT:
21
      BOWDITCH & DEWEY, LLP
      311 Main Street
22
      Worcester, MA 01615
      (508) 791-3511
23
        BY: DAVID FELPER, ESQ.
            JONATHAN R. SIGEL, ESQ.
24
            KATHRYN ABARE-O'CONNELL, ESQ.
```

1	A. I don't recall.
2	Q. Was he there in 2000?
3	A. I really don't recall. I do not
4	recall the date that he left the company or
5	retired from the company.
6	Q. Didn't he participate in union
7	negotiations in 2000?
8	A. I really do not remember
9	specifically the year.
10	Q. Now, if Mr. Soulière had not been
11	on this disability leave or early retirement
12	as you called it, he would have been
13	terminated as well, correct, in January of
14	2000?
15	MR. FELPER: Object. It's asking
16	for a hypothetical.
17	STENOGRAPHER: I didn't hear your
18	answer.
19	THE WITNESS: I'm scrry?
20	STENOGRAPHER: I didn't hear your
21	answer.
22	A. I said I really can't say that. I
23	don't know.
24	Q. Well, you indicated that you were
L	

1	eliminating that level of management, correct?
2	A. When the reduction in force
3	occurred, that level of management was already
4	gone.
5	Q. When did you eliminate the level of
6	management that included Mr. Larsen?
7	MR. FELPER: Objection to the form
8	of the question. He didn't say he eliminated
9	that level of management.
10	A. Say it again, please? I'm
11	Q. When did you terminate Mr. Larsen,
12	Mr. Alberghini, and Mr. Bourque?
13	MR. FELPER: Objection. The
14	witness never said he terminated those
15	individuals.
16	A. I was aware of their termination,
17	and I believe it was in January of
18	two-thousand-and January of 2000.
19	Q. You and Mr. Jordan and Mr. Martino
20	discussed that you were eliminating the level
21	of management that included Ronald Larsen;
2 2	isn't that right?
23	A. Yes, we did discuss it.
4	Q. And Mr. Souliere was in that level
L	

1	Q. And were you aware of those who
2	participated in the bonus plan in your
3	position as senior VP?
4	A. Yes, in a broad scale.
5	Q. And Mr. Larsen was one of those
6	members who participated?
7	A. I believe he was, yes.
8	Q. And so was Mr. Jordan?
9	A. As plant manager, yes.
10	Q. And you're aware that Mr. Larsen
11	received his bonus for the performance of
1 2	1999?
13	A. I don't remember it specifically.
14	Q. You have no independent
15	recollection of that?
16	A. No.
17	Q. And you remember that Mr. Jordan
18	received his bonus for the year 2000?
19	A. I recall that bonuses were achieved
20	in 2000.
2 .	Q. And you're aware that Mr. Jordan
22	received an \$18,000 bonus for the year 2000?
2 3	A. I don't recall the specific number.
2 4	Q. Now, did you get a bonus?
_	

```
A.
                   Yes.
  l
  2
            Q.
                  And did you get a bonus in 1999?
  3
            Α.
                  I don't think so.
  4
                  Did you get a bonus in 2000?
            Q.
 5
            Α.
                  I think so, yes.
  б
                  And how much was that?
            Q.
 7
                  MR. FELPER: Objection. Based on
 8
       relevance.
 9
            Α.
                  Yeah. I mean, I don't -- I don't
       know why that's -- I guess I don't know why
10
11
       that's important.
12
                  Well --
            Q.
13
            A.
                  I'd rather not say. And it's
       also -- it must be understood that there
14
15
      weren't a great number of people who had a
16
      bonus plan. The numbers were limited.
17
            Q.
                  Okay. But the question, sir, is
      how much your bonus was, not anything else.
18
19
                  I said I'd rather not say.
            Α.
20
                  MR. FELPER: Same objection.
21
      Mr. Owens, if I just may, my --
22
                  MS. ELLIOTT: I'm going to --
23
                  MR. FELPER:
                               -- my suggestion is
      that you respond to the question so in case
24
```

	1
1	the Court rules against you, you don't have to
2	make a return trip to Massachusetts. But
3	that's your call.
4	A. Somewhere north of \$50,000, if I
5	remember. I don't remember the specific
6	amount.
7	Q. You had Ms. Thibodeau call
8	Mr. Larsen to arrange this interview with him
9	for the plant manager position in Ohio?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. Did you also have Mr. Carnivale
12	call him?
13	A. Not that I recall.
14	Q. Did Mr. Carnivale I'm sorry.
15	A. I really don't recall for certain.
16	Q. Did Mr. Carnivale tell you that
17	Mr. Larsen might be interested in that
18	position?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. And you had Ms. Thibodeau call him
21	to arrange that interview after Mr. Carnivale
2 2	made this known to you?
2 3	A. Yes.
24	Q. Ms. Thibodeau was present at the

APPENDIX 3

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		2-1
1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS	
2		
3		
4	RONALD LARSEN,) Plaintiff,)	
5		
6	vs.) CA No. 01-40059	
7	simonds industries, inc.,)	
.8	Defendant.)	
9		
10	BEFORE: The Honorable Nathaniel M. Gorton	
11		
12	DAY TWO OF JURY TRIAL	
13		
14		
15	John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse Courtroom No. 4	
16	One Courthouse Way Boston, MA 02210	
. 17.	Tuesday, May 10, 2005 9:08 A.M.	
18	7100 A.H.	
19		
20	Cheryl Dahlstrom, RPR, RMR	
21	James P. Gibbons, RMR Official Court Reporters	
22	John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse One Courthouse Way, Room 3209	ŀ
23	Boston, MA 02210 Mechanical Steno - Transcript by Computer	
24		
25		
		E .

APPEARANCES:

ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE, P.C. By: Marcia L. Elliott, Esq., Jill Romer, Esq., and John Martin Flick, Esq. 307 Central Street Gardner, Massachusetts 01440 On Behalf of the Plaintiff.

BOWDITCH & DEWEY LLP By: David M. Felper, Esq., Jonathan R. Sigel, Esq., and Kathryn Abare-O'Connell, Esq. 311 Main Street P.O. Box 15156 Worcester, Massachusetts 01615 On Behalf of the Defendant.

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ILDA THIBODEAU				
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 - observations of the Simonds Industries company in October 29, 1
 - 1999, shortly after you became the chief operating officer? 2
 - 3 Α. Yes.
 - In that -- in your early observations, you observed that
 - one of the negatives of the company was that it promoted 5
 - people from within and it had resulted in some conventional 6
 - wisdom mentality and lack of diversity in the management 7
 - 8 ranks?
 - That's correct. 9 Α.
- You are aware that the Fitchburg facility was 10
- 11 predominately an age-protected work force at that time?
- 12 Α. I was not.
- You were aware, after January 7, 2000, that the Fitchburg 13
- facility was predominately an age-protected work force? 14
- 15 Α. No, I was not.
- 16 Well, you conducted -- you indicated that you conducted
- disparate impact analysis in and about January 7, 2000, with 17
- regard to the layoff of those individuals, correct? 18
- 19 That's correct, that the company conducted that analysis,
- and I typically only see the analysis by exception. If it 20
- passes the appropriate tests, then it, by default, is accepted 21
- 22 as a part of the process.
- So you had no involvement yourself in the disparate 23
- 24 impact analysis?

25 Α. Correct. That's a human resource function. 1 Q. In fact, you never saw any documents with regard to that
2 analysis if one was conducted for the January 7, 2000, layoff?

2-169

- 3 A. To the best of my recollection, that's correct.
- 4 Q. Now, Fitchburg met its plan goals for the year 2000, is
- 5 | that right?
- 6 A. Not that I recall. The company did not meet its
- 7 | objectives for the year 2000. I don't remember specifically
- 8 whether Fitchburg did. Typically, we measure our company
- 9 based on a number of areas, sales performance, plant
- 10 performance. We don't typically view it just as a location
- 11 performance but more of a business performance.
- 12 Q. But the Fitchburg facility paid a bonus in 2000, did it
- 13 | not?

.....

- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. Which means that they made their plan numbers for that
- 16 particular year?
- 17 A. They either made the plan or a portion of the plan to
- 18 receive a bonus. It's a graduated scale.
- 19 Q. Now, in fact, the plan that you made for 2000 was more
- 20 aggressive than it was for 1999, isn't that right?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- Q. And the net sales in 1999 were \$127 million, roughly,
- 23 | cornect?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. And the net sales in 1998 were 126 million, correct?

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I believe they were about 125 and a little bit, not quite 1

- \$2 million less year over year. 2
- The net sales for the year of 2000 were approximately 125 3
- 4 million?
- Yes, as I stated, about two million less or so than the 5
- 6 previous year.
- 7 In fact, you projected a metal sales increase for 2000,
- 8 correct?
- I believe we did, yes. 9
- And you projected an increase in sales for the wood 10 Q.
- 11 products as well?
- 12 Yes, we did.
- 13 And you projected an increase for 2000 for the rule
- 14 products?
- 15 A. To the best of my recollection, we did.
- And, in fact, as of July 25, 2000, you were 5 percent 16 Q.
- over the 1999 plan numbers, isn't that right? 17
- I can't say specifically with respect to that particular 18
- point in time during the year. I can speak to the full-year 19
- 20 numbers.
- Q. As of July 25th, you were 3.6 percent over the plan 21
- 22 numbers?
- I can't say honestly, as of that particular point in 23
- time, where we stood with respect to our plan. As I 24
- mentioned, we'd had a recession develop in the second half of 25

- 2 2000. The first half was reasonably strong and the second half was weak.
- Q. Were you at a July 25, 2000, board meeting of the company?
- 5 A. If it was a board meeting, I was there. I don't remember 6 the date specifically, but I attend every board meeting.
- Q. It's your testimony that you don't remember what the numbers were on July 25, 2000, is that correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 MS. ELLIOTT: May I approach?
- 11 THE COURT: Yes.
- Q. Mr. Martino, could you take a moment and review this document to yourself, please.
- 14 A. Sure, uh-huh.
- 15 Q. Does that refresh your memory about the fact that the sales were 5 percent over 1999?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 | Q. 2000, excuse me.
- 19 | A. Yes.
- Q. Does it refresh your memory that you were 3.6 percent over plan for 2000?
- A. Correct. That would have been through June even though
 the date of the documents would have been at the board
 meeting, is for the first two quarters of the year, the first
 six months of the year.

- Sir, isn't it true that the cash flow as of July 1, 2000, 1
- was nearly equal to what the cash flow was of the company on
- January 1, 2000? Ĵ
- Again, I didn't look at that specifically. I was looking 4
- at the sales numbers and I don't recall specifically.
- Your testimony is you don't remember that, correct? 6 Ο.
- I don't specifically remember that, that's correct. 7
- 3 MS. ELLIOTT: May I approach, your Honor?
- THE COURT: Yes. 9
- 10 Could you take a moment to review this document, Mr.
- 11 Martino, to yourself?
- This would indicate that there was no change in cash over 1.2
- the first six months of the year. That's what that cash flow 13
- statement says. Cash remained the same. 14
- 1,5 And, in fact, in July -- excuse me. In fact, in 2000, Q.
- the metal demand and production were at historic heights, 16
- 17 isn't that true?
- They were at very strong. I'm not sure, compared to 18
- history, whether they were as high as they've ever been, but 19
- they certainly were strong, as I mentioned, and the first helf 20
- of 2000 was still a very robust business for us. 21
- You never implemented any necessionary cost measures in 22
- 23 2000, correct?
- 24 In the first half of 2000, we did not. Α.
- And you never forecasted any academic slowdown until 25

- 1 Q. Now, your salary in 2000 was 289,000-plus dollars, wasn't
- 2 it? I'm sorry, 389,000-plus dollars?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. Sir, isn't it true that only five persons were laid off
- 5 from the Fitchburg facility in 2000?
- 6 A. I don't remember specifically. I do know, as I
- mentioned, that we had a reduction in force of 60 people
- 8 | company-wide in the first six months, that is, the fourth
- 9 | quarter of 1999 and the first quarter of 2000. I don't
- 10 recollect exactly how many from each facility, but it was a
- 11 | company-wide reduction in force.
- 12 Q. Well, isn't it true, sir, that you only reduced 24 people
- in total in the year 2000 from all facilities?
- 14 A. That sounds about right, but, again, I don't have the
- 15 | numbers in front of me.
- 16 Q. Do you not remember what the number was?
- 17 A. I remember the number at the time I started, and I
- 18 remember the numbers at the -- that the reduction in force of
- 19 about 60 people in the first six months and additional
- 20 | changes. But, remember, we also had some acquisitions during
- 21 | that period, so we added some people with the acquisitions,
- 22 and we had some reductions in force.
- 23 Q. Sir, you must remember, than, that there were only five
- 24 people from the Fitchburg facility that were laid off?
- 25 A. As I said, I don't remember exactly how many per

1 | facility.

- 2 Q. Do you remember whether the Fortland, Oregon, facility
- 3 | had 17 terminations?
- 4 | A. I do know the Portland facility was impacted fairly
- 5 heavily. I don't remember, again, exactly the right number.
- 6 | g. Do you remember that four people were terminated from Big
- 7 Rapids?
- 8 A. As I said, I don't remember any of the numbers
- 9 specifically by facility. I just remember the number in
- 10 total.
- MS. ELLIOTT: Your Honor, may I approach?
- THE COURT: Yes.
- 13 Q. Take a moment to review that to yourself.
- 14 A. Sure.
- 15 Q. Does that refresh your memory that in 2000 the layoffs
- 16 | were 24 from all facilities?
- 17 | A. I'm not sure where I see that number. I see 24
- 18 | reductions in force; 41 resignations replaced.
- 19 Q. Sir, the question is just reductions in force.
- 20 A. Twenty-four is the number I see here.
- 21 | Q. Isn't it true, sir, that there were only five people laid
- 22 off from the Fitchburg facility?
- 23 A. I can't construct that number from these data. I see a
- 24 | long list of Fitchburg employees here, but I can't say whether
- 25 | it was five or not.

7

- Are you familiar with the RIF and what that stands for? Q. 1
- 2 Α.
- Does that stand for reduction in force? 3 Q.
- It does. 4 Α.
- Does that assist you in remembering how many people were 5
- laid off in the reduction in force? 5
- If I go through the list, there are five that are 7
- classified reduction in force, yes. 3
- And isn't it true, sir, that there were 17 reductions in 9
- force in Portland? 10
- Approximately, yes. 11
- Isn't it true that, I believe, 14 of those that were laid 12
- off from the Portland facility were hourly workers, not 13
- 14 salary?
- That looks about right. 15
- Isn't it true that there were four persons reduced in 16
- force from the Big Rapids facility? 17
- Yes. 18 Α.
- Isn't it true, sir, that two people were rehired? 19
- 20 Two people --A.
- I'm sorry, rehired at the Fitchburg facility. 21 ٥.
- At least that I can recall. 22
- With those two rehires, that totals the 24 reductions in 23
- 24 force, correct?
- I can't say whether that's a gross number or a net number 25

- after the rehires by this document.
- 2 Q. Well, I guess if we added five, seventeen and four,
- 3 that's twenty-six, correct?
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. And minus two rehires, equals twenty-four, correct?
- 6 A. Uh-huh. That's domestic only, as you recall.
- 7 Q. Yes.
- 8 | A. Does not include international reductions in force.
- 9 Q. Now, you hired several executives in 2000, correct?
- 10 A. Two in particular.
- 11 | Q. Well, you hired a Henry Botticello, correct?
- 12 A. This is a replacement for the previous chief financial
- 13 officer. That was just a direct replacement which, in the
- 14 | course of business, is customary.
- 15 Q. And his salary was \$192,000 when you hired him, correct?
- 16 A. Sounds about right, but, again, I don't recall the
- 17 | specific number.
- 18 Q. What did you pay the person who was there before him, if
- 19 you know?
- 20 A. I don't know.
- 21 Q. And you hired a Susan Caselli as vice president of
- 22 information technology, correct?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- 24 | Q. And her salary was \$138,000?
- 25 A. That sounds about right.

And you hired a Paul Bencit? Q. 1 That's correct. 2 Α. And he was vice president supply chain management?

Correct. 4 Α.

3

10

11

13

14

15

16

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19

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21

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23

24

25

- And he garnered a salary of \$135,000, isn't that correct? 5
- That sounds about right. Α. 6
- And you never saw these documents in which you claim 7 there was a disparate impact analysis done regarding the 2000 8 9 layoff?
 - As I mentioned, not that I recall. Typically, I'll only see something by exception.

MS. ELLIOTT: No further questions, your Honor. 12

THE COURT: Any redirect?

MR. FELPER: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Martino. You may step down. And now we will resume the plaintiff's case. direct examination had been completed, correct?

MS. ELLICTT: Yes, your Honor.

THE COURT: Then Mr. Jordan will be recalled for cross-examination.

Just for your information, jurors, now we're through with the insert. That was defendant's case. We're going back to the plaintiff's case now. And as you'll recall, Mr. Jordan had direct examination completed, so he is now being made available for cross-examination by defendant's lawyer.